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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A receiving device for a communication system, comprising:

a message information receiver for receiving information about a message to be received;

a controller for determining an iterative decoding number according to the received message information; and

a decoder for iteratively decoding the received message according to the determined iterative decoding number.

- 2. The receiving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the message information includes a class of received data.
- 3. The receiving device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the class includes a bit error rate (BER).
- 4. The receiving device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the controller increases the iterative decoding number if the BER is less than a predetermined number.
- 5. The receiving device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the class includes a permissible time delay.
- 6. The receiving device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the controller increases the iterative decoding number if the permissible time delay is greater than a predetermined number.

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- 7. The receiving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the message information includes a service type of the received data.
- 8. The receiving device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the controller decreases the iterative decoding number if the service type is a moving picture service.
- The receiving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decoder is a soft-9. decision decoder.
- The receiving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decoder is a MAP 10. (Maximum A Posteriori Probability) decoder.
- The receiving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the decoder is a SOVA 11. (Soft Output Viterbi Algorithm) decoder.
- 12. A receiving device for a communication system, comprising: channel condition analyzing means for analyzing a condition of a receiving channel; a controller for determining an iterative decoding number according to the channel condition; and
- a decoder for iteratively decoding a received message according to the determined iterative decoding number.

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- 13. The receiving device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the controller increases the iterative decoding number if the condition of the receiving channel is determined to be worse than a predetermined condition.
- 14. The receiving device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the decoder is a soft-decision decoder.
- 15. The receiving device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the decoder is a MAP decoder.
- 16. The receiving device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the decoder is a SOVA decoder.
  - 17. A receiving method for a communication system, comprising the steps of: receiving information about a message to be received;

determining an iterative decoding number according to the received message information; and

iteratively decoding the received message according to the determined iterative decoding number.

18. The receiving method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the message information includes a data class of the received data.

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- 19. The receiving method as claimed in claim 18, further comprising the step of decreasing the iterative decoding number if the data class of the received data is a low data class.
- 20. The receiving method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the class includes a BER.
- 21. The receiving method as claimed in claim 18, further comprising the step of decreasing the iterative decoding number if the BER is greater than a predetermined number.
- 22. The receiving method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the data class includes a permissible time delay.
- 23. The receiving method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of decreasing the iterative decoding number if the permissible time delay is less than a predetermined number.
- 24. The receiving method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the message information includes a service type of the received data.
- 25. The receiving method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising the step of decreasing the iterative decoding number if the service type is a moving picture service.

and

A receiving method for a communication system, comprising the steps of: 26. analyzing a condition of a receiving channel;

determining an iterative decoding number according to the channel condition analysis;

iteratively decoding a received message according to the determined iterative decoding number.

- The receiving method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the channel condition 27. is determined according to a signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) of a received signal.
- 28. The receiving method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising the step of decreasing the iterative decoding number if the channel condition is worse than a predetermined condition threshold.